US ERA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

#### CATALOG DOCUMENTATION

National Stream Survey (NSS) Database: NSSISD4 (includes revisits) Stream Chemistry Survey

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- DATA SET IDENTIFICATION
- 1.1 Title of Catalog Document

NSS-I Data Set 4 (Enhanced) NSSIDS4 1986 Includes revised Pilot survey data

- ,
- 1.2 Authors of the Catalog Entry
  U.S. EPA NHEERL Western Ecology Division
  Corvallis, OR
- 1.3 Catalog Revision Date March 1998
- 1.4 Data Set Name NSSIDS4
- 1.5 Task Group

Aquatic Effect Research Program (AERP) - National Surface Water Survey

- 1.6 Data Set Identification Code
- 158
- 1.7 Version
- 001
- 1.8 Requested Acknowledgment

This research was funded as apart of the National Surface Water Survey by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). If you publish these data or use them for analyses in publications, EPA requires a standard statement for work it has supported:

"Although the data described in this article have been funded wholly or in part by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, it has not been subjected to Agency review, and therefore does not necessarily reflect the views of the Agency and no official endorsement of the conclusions should be inferred."

- 2. INVESTIGATOR INFORMATION
- 2.1 Principal Investigator
  Dixon Landers
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  NHEERL Western Ecology Division
  200 S.W. 35th Street
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2.2 Investigation Participant - Sample Collection John Baker, Coordinator

### 3. DATA SET ABSTRACT

### 3.1 Abstract of the Data Set

The primary function of the stream water chemistry samples characterizes or indexes the chemical and physical properties of a sample reach. The NSS-I relied on sample taken during an appropriate season from a representative sample of water bodies to provide an index of the chemical characteristics of a target population of surface waters. In the NSS this index value depicts stream chemistry during spring baseflow between snowmelt and leafout (approximately March 15 to May 15), when sensitive life stages of important fish species are present and chemical conditions potentially limiting to aquatic organisms are likely to exist. On each sample visit, field crews collected a 3.8-L water sample and four 60-mL syringe samples, in addition to recording watershed and hydrologic descriptive characteristics and making in situ chemical measurements. Water samples were then transported to a centralized processing laboratory where they were stabilized. Chemical measurements were made within 36 hours of sample collections. The processed samples, aliquoted and preserved, were then shipped to contract analytical laboratories for chemical analyses.

# 3.2 Keywords for the Data Set

Aluminum, alkalinity, acid neutralizing capacity, calcium, carbonate, color, specific conductance, dissolved inorganic carbon, dissolved organic carbon, bicarbonate, potassium, magnesium, ammonium, sodium, nitrate, total nitrogen, pH, total phosphorus, silica, total suspended solids, turbidity, absorbence, chlorophyll a, water chemistry

### 4. OBJECTIVES AND INTRODUCTION

### 4.1 Program Objective

The specific primary goals of the National Stream Survey (NSS-I) are (1) to determine the percentage, extent (number, length, and drainage area), location, and chemical characteristics of streams in the United States that are presently acidic, or that have low acid neutralizing capacity (ANC) and thus might become acidic in the future, and (2) to identify streams representative of important classes in each region that might be selected for more intensive study or long-term monitoring.

### 4.2 Data Set Objective

Data set NSSIDS4 is considered the final data set and is the end product of intensive quality review. This data set is used to generate population estimates. Based on chemical relationships within the data, erroneous and missing values have been replaced with estimated values. Chemical values from field duplicate water samples have been averaged with corresponding routine samples. After the original Pilot Stream Survey Report was published, a small portion of the data was revised. The Pilot Survey data, with all revisions, are included in NSSIDS4. The resulting data set contains observations for 450 NSS-I probability sample reaches, 54 Pilot Survey reaches, and 44 special interest streams. Data are not averaged between sample visits. Note that the reaches sampled during the Pilot Survey have 8-character stream identification codes, whereas reaches sampled during the NSS-I have 9-character codes. Sites considered noninterest in generating estimates of the NSS-I target population of streams are identified by variable (DRPCDE) that contains a sample exclusion "drop" code:0-5 (see Data Dictionary Section 4.4)

## 4.3 Data Set Background Discussion

The NSS-I was designed to achieve these objectives within known confidence limits. It was designed to allow these objectives to be met for any chemical or physical variable measured. For example, the NSS-I design allows an estimation of the

percentage of the stream population within a given region having sulfate, nitrate, aluminum, or calcium concentrations above or below any criterion value of interest. Should some other characteristic of target streams, such as frequency or duration of biologically deleterious episodes, or sensitivity to chronic acidification, be acceptable defined in the future, base on one or more of the variables measured on sample streams, the NSS-I design will also permit the regional extrapolation of such information. The sampling design lends itself to many comparative evaluations.

4.4 Summary of Data Set Parameters Water chemistry parameters are reported for one sample taken at the midpoint of the selection stream reach. These include: aluminum, alkalinity, acid neutralizing capacity, calcium, carbonate, color, specific conductance, dissolved inorganic carbon, dissolved organic carbon, bicarbonate, potassium,

dissolved inorganic carbon, dissolved organic carbon, bicarbonate, potassium magnesium, ammonium, sodium, nitrate, total nitrogen, pH, total phosphorus, silica, total suspended solids, and turbidity.

- 5. DATA ACQUISITION AND PROCESSING METHODS
- 5.1 Data Acquisition
- 5.1.1 Sampling Objective To obtain a single grab sample of stream water for the purposes of chemical analysis during a two month sampling window from mid-March through mid-May.
- 5.1.2 Sample Collection Methods Summary A 3.8 L sample and four 60-mL syringe samples were collected.

A sample was taken from mid-depth of the stream using a battery driven peristaltic pump and pumped into a 4-liter Cubitainer and four gas-tight 60 ml syringe samples.

- 5.1.3 Sampling Start Date March 1986
- 5.1.4 Sampling End Date May 1986
- 5.1.5 Platform NA
- Sampling Gear
  Routine samples were collected from each stream by pumping water through 1/4 inch Tygon tubing held in the center of the stream at mid-depth with a 6-foot sampling boom. Water samples were pumped into a 4-liter polyethylene Cubitainer using portable, battery-driven peristaltic pumps. In addition, four gas-tight 60mL polypropylene syringe samples were collected without exposing the samples to the atmosphere in order to minimize changes in the water sample prior to analysis. These syringes were used for analysis of pH, dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC), and total monomeric and nonexchangeable aluminum performed in the laboratory. (Knapp et al., 1987, Hagley et al., 1988)
- 5.1.7 Manufacturer of Instruments NA
- 5.1.8 Key Variables NA
- 5.1.9 Sampling Method Calibration NA

- 5.1.10 Sample Collection Quality Control Kaufmann, P.R., A.T. Herlihy, J.W. Elwood, M.E. Mitch, W.S. Overton, M.J. Sale, J.J. Messer, K.A. Cougan, D.V. Peck, K.H. Reckhow, A.J. Kinnery, S.J. Christie, D.D. Brown, C.A. Hagley, and H.I. Jager. Chemical Characteristics of Streams in the Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern United States. Volume I: Population descriptions and Physico-Chemical Relationships. EPA/600/3-88/021a. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, D.C.
- 5.1.11 Sample Collection Method Reference See Kaufmann et al., 1988.
- 5.1.12 Sample Collection Method Deviations NA
- 5.2 Data Preparation and Sample Processing 5.2.1 Sample Processing Objective See Kaufmann et al., 1988.
- 5.2.2 Sample Processing Methods Summary See Kaufmann et al., 1988.
- 5.2.3 Sample Processing Method Calibration See Kaufmann et al., 1988.
- 5.2.4 Sample Processing Quality Control See Kaufmann et al., 1988.
- 5.2.5 Sample Processing Method Reference See Kaufmann et al., 1988.
- 6. DATA MANIPULATIONS
- 6.1 Name of New or Modified Values None.
- 6.2 Data Manipulation Description See Kaufmann et al., 1988.
- 7. DATA DESCRIPTION
- 7.1 Description of Parameters

#				Parameter Format Label
 57	A1	Num		DIDECT MATERCHED ADEA (CO MI)
	Λ1 Λ1DDTME	Nulli	0	DIRECT WATERSHED AREA (SQ MI) UPDATED (1989) A1 (SQ MI)
-	A2		8	WS AREA TO MAPPED UPPER NODE (SQ MI)
	A3	Num	8	WS AREA TO MAPPED HEADWATER (SQ MI)
64	A4		8	WS AREA TO MAPPED HEADWATER (SQ MI) WS AREA BETWEEN U/L SAMPLE SITE (SQ KM)
	A5	Num	8	WS AREA TO UPPER SAMPLE SITE (SQ KM)
21	ACC011	Num	8	BASE NEUTRALIZING CAPACITY (UEQ/L)
		Num	8	MONOMERIC (PCV) ALUMINUM (UMOL/L):
				ALDS16 = ALDSVL * 1000/26.982
47	ALEX16	Num	8	EXTRACTABLE (MIBK) ALUMINUM (UMOL/L):
• • •	//LL//LO	110111	Ū	ALEX16 = ALEX11 * 1000/26.982
95	ALINOR	Num	٥	INORG. MONOMERIC ALUMINUM (UMOL/L)
			0	ACID NEUTRALIZING CARACITY (UEC (L)
22	ALKA11	Num	8	ACID NEUTRALIZING CAPACITY (UEQ/L)
49	ALOR16	Num	8	ORG. MONOMERIC (PCV) ALUMINUM (UMOL/L)
46	ALTL16	Num	8	ACID NEUTRALIZING CAPACITY (UEQ/L) ORG. MONOMERIC (PCV) ALUMINUM (UMOL/L) TOTAL ALUMINUM (UMOL/L)
44	ANDEF	Num	8	ANION DEFICIT, CATSUM-ANSUM (UEQ/L)
40	ANSUM	Num	8	SUM OF ANIONS (UEQ/L):
				ANSUM = HC0316+C0316+CL16+N0316+S0416+FTL16+

# 7.1 Description of Parameters, continued

#	Parameter SAS Name	Data Type	Len	Parameter Format Label
	A_WS	Num	8	WS AREA TO MAPPED NODE (SQ KM)
28	CA16	Num	8	CALCIUM (UEQ/L) :CA16=CA11*28.21
41	CATSUM	Num	8	
30	CL16	Num	8	CATSUM = CA16+MG16+K16+NA16+NH416+H16. CHLORIDE (UEQ/L)
29	C0316	Num	8	
8	COLVAL	Num	8	
23	COND11	Num	8	
13	CONIS	Num	8	
9	CONVAL	Num	8	
80 81	COUNTY1 COUNTY2	Char Char	15 15	
82	COUNTY3	Char	15	
83	COUNTY4	Char	15	
10	DATSMP	Num	8	DATE DATE SAMPLED
24	DICE11	Num	8	
25	DICI11	Num	8	
5 17	DICVAL DOC11	Num Num	8 8	
15	DO IS	Num	8	
26	DRPCDE	Num	8	
62	ELEV	Num	8	SAMPLE SITE ELEVATION (M)
52	FE16	Num	8	
36	FTL16	Num	8	
68 38	GRADE H16	Num Num	8 8	
27	HC0316	Num	8	
33	K16	Num	8	
63	L2	Num	8	
2	LABNAM	Char	30	
70 71	LAT_STD LON_STD	Num Num	8 8	
84	MAP1	Char	35	
85	MAP2	Char	35	
86	MAP3	Char	35	
87	MAP4	Char	35	
88 89	MAP5 MAP6	Char Char	35 35	
31	MG16	Num	8	
51	MN16	Num	8	
34	NA16	Num	8	SODIUM (UEQ/L)
37	NH416	Num	8	
32	N0316	Num	8	
75 16	NODE NOTSAM	Char Char	9 20	
39	0H16	Num	8	
43	ORGION	Num	8	CALCULATED ORGANIC ANIONS (UEQ/L)
20	PHAC11	Num	8	
19	PHAL11	Num	8	
18 6	PHEQ11 PHSTVL	Num Num	8 8	
77	PH CLO	Num	8	
12	PH_R	Num	8	FIELD PH, OPEN SYSTEM
45	PTD16	Num	8	
78	PTL16	Num	8	
90 58	QUAD RCH HW	Char Num	42 8	
1	RCH ID	Char	9	
56	RCH_LN	Num	8	
	_			

# 7.1 Description of Parameters, continued

	Parameter	Data			Parameter
#	SAS Name	Type	Len	Forma	at Label
	SAMCOD	 Char	0		SAMPLE TYPE (D.DA.E.EDA.ER.NS.SY.R)
3 11			0		SAMPLE LIFE $(V, VA, E, EVA, EK, NS, SI, K)$
	SAMRN	Num	0		SAMPLE VISIT NUMBER (0,1,2,3,4)
67	SHRE75	Num	8		SHREVE ORDER -1:24,000 SCALE MAP
50	SI0216	Num	8		DISSOLVED SILICA (UMOL/L)
	SIT_CLS		6		SITE CHARACTERISTIC CODE
		Num	8		SULFATE (UEQ/L)
42	SOBC	Num	8 2 2		SUM OF BASE CATIONS (UEQ/L)
59	STATE1	Char	2		STATE (TWO CHARACTER CODE)
60	STATE2	Char	2		STATE (TWO CHARACTER CODE)
91	STRA250	Num	8		STRAHLER ORDER -1:250,000 SCALE MAP
66	STRA75	Num	8		STRAHLER ORDER -1:24,000 SCALE MAP
55	STRATUM	Num	8		STRATUM (1=REG., 2=LOW ANC, 3=SMALL A1)
54	STRMDP	Num	8		STREAM DEPTH (M)
61	STRMNAM	Char	30		STREAM NAME
53	STRMWD	Num	8		STREAM WIDTH (M)
4	STRM_ID	Char	9		STREAM/SITE IDENTIFICATION CODE
69	SUB_ID	Char	3		SUBREGION IDENTIFICATION CODE
74	TIMSMP	Num	8	TIME	TIME SAMPLED (HH:MM)
14	TMPSTR	Num	8		STREAM TEMPERATURE (DEG C)
7	TURVAL	Num	8		TURBIDITY (NTU)
79	W	Num			REACH WEIGHTING FACTOR
76	WC	Num	8		STAGE II CONDTIONAL WEIGHT

7.1.6 Precision to which values are reported NA

## 7.1.7 Minimum Value in Data Set

Name	Min
A1	0.02
A1PRIME	0.02
A2 A3	0
A3 A4	0.0518
A4 A5	0.0518
ACC011	-85.4
ALDS16	0.0370617449
ALEX16	0.0370017449
ALINOR	0
ALKA11	-1750.6
ALOR16	0
ALTL16	0
ANDEF	-1964.397878
ANSUM	50.284969703
A WS	0
CA16	3.1437
CATSUM	68.533750895
CL16	3.3852
C0316	1.0670655E-8
COLVAL	0
COND11	7.58
CONIS	1
	10.5
DATSMP	9207
DICE11	0
DICI11	0.059
DICVAL	0.137
D0C11	0

# 7.1.7 Minimum Value in Data Set, continued

Name	Min
DO_IS DRPCDE ELEV FE16 FTL16	0.7 0 0.3048 0
GRADE	0.0122189638
H16	0.0004365158
HC0316	0.035169996
K16	0.02557
L2	0.177
LAT_STD	28.308611111
LON_STD	-73.539166667
MG16	8.06148
MN16	0
NA16	5.6115
NH416	0
N0316	0
OH16	0.0000186209
ORGION	0
PHAC11	3
PHAL11	3
PHEQ11 PHSTVL PH_CL0 PH_R PTD16	3.05 3.27 6.14 3.39
PTL16	0.0613417705
RCH_HW	1
RCH_LN	0.2253
SAMRN	0
SHRE75	1
SI0216	-0.104853206
S0416	0.966048
SOBC	45.1883
STRA250 STRA75 STRATUM STRMDP STRMWD	1 1 1 0
TIMSMP	4200
TMPSTR	2.1
TURVAL	0.03
W	0
WC	0

# 7.1.8 Maximum Value in Data Set

Name	Max
A1	39.51
A1PRIME	38.28
A2	50.86
A3	23.847683398
A4	109.9089
A5	142.9541
ACC011	2421.4
ALDS16	453.00200133
ALEX16	374.32362316
ALINOR	442.0539619
ALKA11	7602.8

7.1.8 Maximum Value in Data Set, continued

Name	Min
ALOR16	13.890741976
ALTL16	2742.5691202
ANDEF	2101.5448465
ANSUM	12132.196307
A WS	193.5248
CĀ16	4821.4877
CATSUM	10926.620325
CL16	10719.8
CO316	170.52721703
COLVAL	900
COND11	1294
CONIS	1410
	1376.3 9631 71.2
DICVAL	71.2 92.706 92.44
DOC11	171
DO_IS	17.1
DRPCDE	13
ELEV	1359.3417
FE16	587.39255014
FTL16	27.351744
GRADE	19.76284585
H16	537.03179637
HC0316	7254.7137944
K16	226.08994
L2	24.2678
LAT_STD	42.253611111
LON_STD	-95.899722222
MG16	3071.9997
MN16	220.24827988
NA16	8047.5
NH416	168.271488
NO316	1129.1
ORGION	22.908676528 704.51094789
PHAC11	8.92
PHAL11	8.89
PHEQ11	8.86
PHSTVL	9.36
PH_CL0	8.83
PH_R	9.43
PTD16	47.459159295
PTL16	47.459159295
RCH_HW	26
RCH_LN	32.1532
SAMRN	4
SHRE75	243
SI0216	567.95486319
S0416	7078.8
S0BC	10884.7032
STRA250	4
STRA75 STRATUM	6 3
STRMDP	7
STRMWD	900
TIMSMP	69600

### 7.1.8 Maximum Value in Data Set, continued

Name Min
----TMPSTR 28.8
TURVAL 1800
W 332.30769231

WC 63.097068232

#### 7.2 Data Record Example

### 7.2.1 Column Names for Example Records

A1 A1PRIME A2 A3 A4 A5 ACCO11 ALDS16 ALEX16 ALINOR ALKA11 ALOR16 ALTL16 ANDEF ANSUM A\_WS CA16 CATSUM CL16 CO316 COLVAL COND11 CONIS CONVAL COUNTY1 COUNTY2 COUNTY3 COUNTY4 DATSMP DICE11 DICI11 DICVAL DOC11 DO\_IS DRPCDE ELEV FE16 FTL16 GRADE H16 HCO316 K16 L2 LABNAM LAT\_STD LON\_STD MAP1 MAP2 MAP3 MAP4 MAP5 MAP6 MG16 MN16 NA16 NH416 NO316 NODE NOTSAM OH16 ORGION PHAC11 PHAL11 PHEQ11 PHSTVL PH\_CLO PH\_R PTD16 PTL16 QUAD RCH\_HW RCH\_ID RCH\_LN SAMCOD SAMRN SHRE75 SIO216 SIT\_CLS SO416 SOBC STATE1 STATE2 STRA250 STRA75 STRATUM STRMDP STRMNAM STRMWD STRM ID SUB ID TIMSMP TMPSTR TURVAL W WC

#### 7.2.2 Example Data Records

0.98,0.98,21.25,0,2.5639,54.9027,43.9,0.618931139,0.185308724,0.011118524,740.4,0.607812616,1.593655029,13.67916566,1176.559126,57.5757,848.3,1190.238291,166.1569,5.373496761,5,125,87,125.2,CHAUTAUQUA, , , , ,23-Apr-86,9.22,9.37,8.943,1.87,11.2,0,410.5456,0.179083095,2.31616,0.60721721,0.012589254,721.5031406,18.48711,2.1081,NYSDOH,42.215,79.09916667,"KENNEDY, NY 1979", "CHERRY CREEK,NY 1954", "HAMLET, NY 1954", "GERRY, NY 1979", , ,205.65,0.054607012,116.58,1.208592,43.0671,L, ,0.794328235,18.53053177,7.58,7.56,7.75,7.9,.,8.24,0.08394137,.,BUFFALO 1962,4,1D022009,2.1725,R,1,19,56.08814327, ,237.348,1189.01711,NY, ,2,4,3,0.25,CLEAR CREEK,7,1D022009L,1D,12:25,10.5,1.2,65.30612245,1

0.98,0.98,21.25,0,2.5639,54.9027,36.2,0.333555704,0.088948188,0,1324.2,0.552219999,0.518864428,8.473526646,1789.925089,57.5701,1312.37,1798.398616,237.5282,8.315579285,10,186,118,187.6,CHAUTAUQUA,,,,8-May-86,14.4,14.9,15.21,0.843,10.6,0,410.5456,0.125358166,2.42144,0.60721721,0.013803843,1224.260234,22.96186,2.1081,NYSD0H,42.215,79.09916667,"KENNEDY,NY 1979","CHERRY CREEK,NY 1954","HAMLET,NY 1954","GERRY,NY 1979",,315.8784,0.054607012,146.16,1.014552,52.2612,L,,0.72443596,8.369833642,7.73,7.73,8.29,7.86,.,7.98,0.132369084,.,BUFFALO 1962,4,1D022009,2.1725,R,2,19,27.79442114,,264.414,1797.37026,NY,,2,4,3,0.25,CLEAR CREEK,7,1D022009L,1D,7:05,8.7,0.37,65.30612245,1

0.98,0.98,21.25,0,2.5639,54.9027,42,0.678229931,0.222370469,0,763.1,0.778296642, 1.37128456,38.3759689,1183.386392,55.0321,878.24,1221.762361,162.7717,3.705548335, 10,126.4,89,121.4,CHAUTAUQUA, , , ,23-Apr-86,9.1,9.05,9.231,1.61,10.9,0,423.3465, 0.214899714,2.42144,0.60721721,0.018620871,735.9252718,18.76838,2.1081,NYSDOH, 42.22638889,79.11555556, "KENNEDY, NY 1979", "CHERRY CREEK, NY 1954", "HAMLET, NY 1954", "GERRY, NY 1979", , ,213.0534,0.091011686,110.49,1.19196,44.8414,U, ,0.537031796,15.96519219,7.63,7.65,7.84,7.73,.,7.92,0.10654097,.,BUFFALO 1962,4, 1D022009,2.1725,R,1,19,51.26156714, ,233.184,1220.55178,NY, ,2,4,3,0.2,CLEAR CREEK, 6,1D022009U,1D,13:25,10.5,0.8,65.30612245,1

### 8. GEOGRAPHIC AND SPATIAL INFORMATION

- 8.1 Minimum Longitude
- -83 Degrees 14 Minutes 39.98 Seconds West ( -83.244438889 Decimal Degrees )
- 8.2 Maximum Longitude
- -75 Degrees 7 Minutes 17.00 Seconds West ( -75.12139 Decimal Degrees )

- 8.3 Minimum Latitude
  36 Degrees 33 Minutes 12.60 Seconds North ( 36.5535 Decimal Degrees )
- 8.4 Maximum Latitude 41 Degrees 57 Minutes 21.65 Seconds North ( 41.956013889 Decimal Degrees )
- 8.5 Name of Area or Region Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia.
- 9. QUALITY CONTROL / QUALITY ASSURANCE
- 9.1 Data Quality Objectives See Kaufmann et al., 1988.
- 9.2 Quality Assurance Procedures See Kaufmann et al., 1988.
- 9.3 Unassessed Errors NA
- 10. DATA ACCESS
- 10.1 Data Access Procedures
- 10.2 Data Access Restrictions
- 10.3 Data Access Contact Persons
- 10.4 Data Set Format
- 10.5 Information Concerning Anonymous FTP
- 10.6 Information Concerning WWW
- 10.7 EMAP CD-ROM Containing the Data
- 11. REFERENCES

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### 12. TABLE OF ACRONYMS

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